

BIDDERS ON WHARF FAIRLY TREATED

Committee Think Objectors' Complaint Has No Valid Ground.

WANT NEW BELLEVUE SCHOOL

City Asked to Buy Van Lew Home—More Trouble With Fee System.

According to the opinion expressed by a number of members of the Finance Committee last night, and which seemed to meet with the general approval of that body, there is no merit whatever in the complaint filed through a circular letter by Charles F. Walther and other dissatisfied bidders who failed to secure the contract for erecting the proposed city wharf and bulkhead. It was clearly reserved to the committee on James River improvement to select any or all bids, and it was within its rights in recommending for adoption any proposal it saw fit.

The Finance Committee held an extended public session last night, when parties were heard in support of a number of propositions now pending. No action was taken, and the committee will meet within the next few days in executive session, to consider the matters presented, and make some recommendations. The more important of the propositions pending are the new city wharf; the purchase of the Van Lew property for public school purposes, and the increase of pay of street cleaners.

The New Wharf.
The wharf matter provoked a prolonged debate, in the course of which City Engineer Bolling entered emphatic protest against the plan the city has recently adopted of asking for plans, specifications and estimates for plans, specifications and estimates, not securing any competition in price on the design selected.

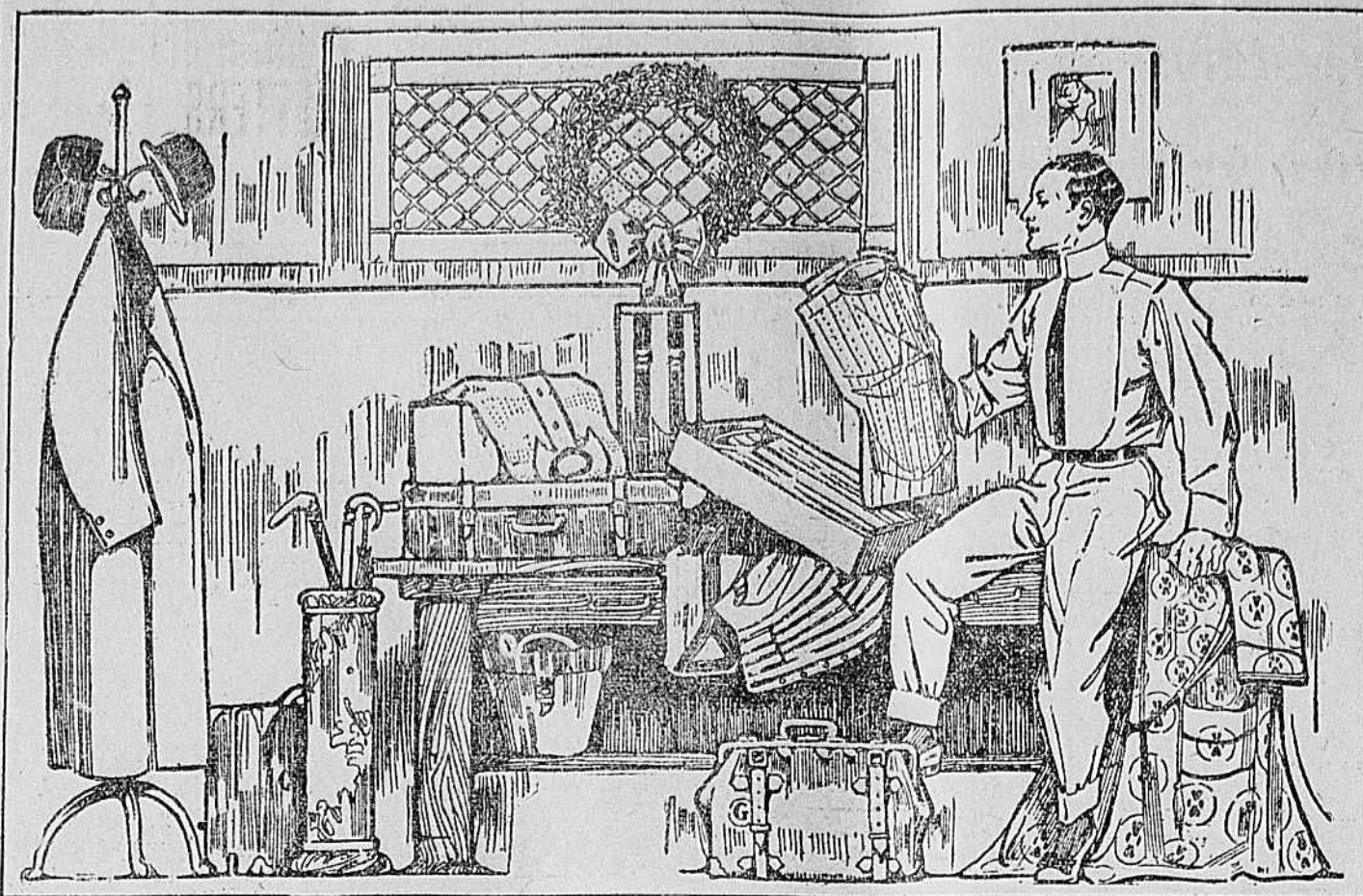
The wharf matter has been hanging fire for more than a year. Last year the Finance Committee included in the budget \$20,000 for wooden pile wharf, although the estimate of the engineers were that the work would cost from \$25,000 to \$35,000. Mr. Bolling prepared plans for a timber wharf and bulkhead, calculated to last from fifteen to twenty-five years; bids were invited, and the lowest was \$24,000. Exceeding the appropriation, it was sent to the Finance Committee, which, instead of making an additional appropriation, recommended that the committee on James River improvement be instructed to call for plans, specifications and bids on erection of a bulkhead and concrete pile wharf. It was in accordance with that resolution that the committee invited proposals, with bids from engineering companies, and, after opening bids, recommended the award to the Raymond Concrete Pile Company, of Baltimore, for \$24,750. No additional appropriation having been made to meet the increased cost of concrete construction, the paper again went to the Finance Committee.

No Merit in Complaints.
Chairman George Rogers, of the Committee on Improvement of James River, explained the situation to the committee, saying that an additional appropriation would be needed if the award was made. Mr. Rogers explained that there was no merit in the protest of Mr. Walther and of the Thomas P. Construction Company, of Cincinnati, which had also complained of the treatment it had received.

City Engineer Bolling explained that the city proposed not only a wharf, but a bulkhead, which would confine the channel by continuous sheet piling and so make it unnecessary to continue expensive dredging. The Walther design proposed a separate wharf, and the city proposed to build the wharf and bulkhead, without such continuous sheet piling.

In response to Mr. Walther's complaint Mr. Bolling said that he had received the same information furnished other bidders, and that the blue prints showing location and measurements of the city property on which it was proposed to build, the depth of water, height of tides and freshets, the rock ledge formations and foundations, Mr. Bolling said that under the conditions of the competition he did not feel authorized to make any suggestions to any bidder as to the kind of wharf he was to build, and that there were several features of the Walther design which rendered it unsuitable for permanent construction. As for his rejection of the Walther design, Mr. Bolling said that it was expected to put concrete sheet piling over the filled earth, and that the plan of openwork construction would tend to deposit the mud of the wharf and require constant dredging.

A Mere Skeleton.
He had told Mr. Walther that the city required a reinforced concrete bulkhead wharf, and the advertisement so stated, and the City Engineer did not feel it proper to make further suggestions in such a competition. The Walther plan, Mr. Bolling showed from blue prints called for separate piles twenty-one feet apart, being according to Mr. Bolling, "a mere skeleton of a design," in no sense a permanent bulkhead wharf, and not fulfilling the intention of the city in making a permanent construction. Mr. Bolling said he was willing to leave that point to any competent engineer, and that the committee had had a right to recommend any design it had chosen from those submitted and to build it, provided it can get the funds. Messrs. Grundy and Richardson agreed that the disgruntled bidders had presented no evidence whatever of



To Those Who Have Gifts To Buy For A Man

Four days before Christmas—it's the "test time" to prove the worth of this store's service. Instead of mused-over stocks, depleted assortments and the general "you'll have to take what's left" condition prevailing in many establishments, you will find here **Full Stocks**—spic and span in every respect. We offer you exactly the same dependable quality merchandise **always** found here—goods in demand **after** Christmas as well as **before**.

We have served thousands of Gift buyers during the past four weeks. They have demonstrated the wisdom of selecting goods for men at the store where thorough satisfaction goes with every purchase.

We have proved that, quality for quality, we sell at prices certainly not higher, and often lower, than people expect to pay. Is it any wonder December 1910 will go on our records as the banner month for the biggest business experienced in our many years of "Merchandizing to Men"?

Open 'til seven o'clock evenings.

O. H. BERRY & COMPANY

MAIN AND ELEVENTH STS.

unfair treatment and nothing to sustain their charges.

Should Have Competitive Bids.
"It is highly desirable that we come to some understanding," said Mr. Bolling, "either the Engineer's office should draw plans for such work, with proper consultation with experts, and then get bids on those plans—there is not a competition on any design here—or, if you don't want us to do the work—and on matters such as this wharf and the proposed new bridge I do not hesitate to say that there are experts who can get up better designs—you should select a half-dozen and offer prizes in a competition for designs only, and then on the design selected ask for bids. We are working in the dark now. There is no competition in bids and prices."

Mr. Bolling said that neither of the "kickers" had any ground for complaint, and asked City Engineer Bolling to ask the wharf give us what we want?"

Will Make Good.
"I think it will," said Mr. Bolling. "But the specifications should be more ample and show just what they propose to do. That is provided for in the resolution, and if they are carried out you will certainly get a good wharf. What I believe in competitive bidding, I doubt whether, with the appliances and experience this company has had in this class of work, you could have gotten any one to underbid them. The resolution requires a fixed cash bond for one-half of the cost of the work, guaranteeing the maintenance of the wharf in every way for that period."

Several members of the committee asked questions which showed that they were considering the possibility of returning to the wharf wharf plan or of throwing out all designs and holding a new competition, first for designs and then inviting bids on the plans adopted. The majority, however, seemed to think that the price was as low as the city could secure on a proper piece of construction, and that much time would be lost by going over the whole matter again. It was the belief of several members of the committee that the Finance Committee will recommend the award to the Raymond Concrete Pile Company and that an additional appropriation to cover the excess cost will be made.

Would Purchase Van Lew Home.
Principal Saunders, of Bellevue School, and a large delegation appeared in behalf of the proposition for purchasing the Van Lew property, recently used by Dr. Parker as a tuberculosis sanitarium, for public school purposes. It was represented that the Bellevue School is antiquated, and badly located, on a noisy thoroughfare, and without playgrounds; that the city could acquire the entire block occupied by the Van Lew homestead for \$25,000, that one-half of the block is level and would afford an ideal site for a new

school building, with proper grounds surrounding, and that the lower half could be made into an annex to Taylor's Hill Park, being already terraced and improved. It was represented that both Bellevue and Springfield schools were greatly overcrowded.

Several members of the street cleaning force spoke in support of the ordinance increasing the pay of the men from \$2 to \$2.25 per day.

Only Gets One-Half.
City Collector Robertson, formerly employed by the city of Manchester, and under the operation act continued in office until December 1, when his term expired, presented his case to the committee. The ordinance provided that an office must be maintained in South Richmond for the collection of both current and delinquent taxes. City Collector Canfield, not Delinquent Tax Collector, had offered to collect in South Richmond, and give him half the commissions earned. Mr. Robertson did not see why, if he did all the work, he should not receive a larger proportion of the fees. Up to December 1 he was paid the rate of \$1,500 a year in lieu of fees.

Mr. Grundy made the point that under the charter the office was under the City Collector, and however much the committee might like to interfere, it could not divert it to City Collector Canfield. How much he should pay his deputies. The whole matter was referred to a subcommittee of three, consisting of Messrs. Bradley, Fuller and Grundy, to confer with the City Collector, the Delinquent Collector and the City Attorney.

THE WEATHER
Forecast: Virginia—Fair, continued cold Wednesday, Thursday, not quite so cold; moderate west to north-west winds.
North Carolina—Fair, continued cold Wednesday, Thursday, not quite so cold; moderate west winds.

CONDITIONS YESTERDAY.	
Wind, direction	West
Wind, velocity	3 to 8
Weather	Clear
12 noon temperature	40
4 P. M. temperature	36
Minimum temperature	32
Maximum temperature	40
Minimum temperature	32
P. M. temperature	36
Mean temperature	36
Normal temperature	40
Deficiency in temperature	4
Excess in temperature	0
Deficiency in temperature since March 1	4
Excess in temperature since March 1	0
Accum. excess in rainfall since January 1	2.96
Accum. excess in rainfall since January 1	1.62

CONDITIONS IN IMPORTANT CITIES.	
Place	Ther. H.T. Weather.
Albany	28 34 Clear
Annapolis	28 34 Clear
Baltimore	28 34 Clear
Boston	28 34 Clear
Buffalo	28 34 Clear
Chicago	28 34 Clear
Cincinnati	28 34 Clear
Cleveland	28 34 Clear
Charlotte	28 34 Clear
Galveston	28 34 Clear
Hatteras	28 34 Clear
Indianapolis	28 34 Clear
Jacksonville	28 34 Clear
Jupiter	28 34 Clear
Knoxville	28 34 Clear
Louisville	28 34 Clear
Mobile	28 34 Clear
New York	28 34 Clear
Norfolk	28 34 Clear
Oldham	28 34 Clear
Pittsburg	28 34 Clear
Raleigh	28 34 Clear
Savannah	28 34 Clear
Tampa	28 34 Clear
Washington	28 34 Clear
Wilmington	28 34 Clear

TIDE TABLE.
December 21, 1910.
Morning 8:24
Evening 9:15

WATCHMAN LOSES LIFE IN BIG FIRE

New York Factory Burns—Panic in Nearby Tenements Threatened.

New York, December 20.—Two early morning fires in the upper part of New York City resulted today in the death of one man, a watchman; the serious injury of a fireman, and property damage estimated at \$350,000.

The first fire was in a six-story brick factory building at 494-498 East One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Street, the Bronx. The building, occupied by Xenos & Co., brass manufacturers, had just been rebuilt after a fire which eight months ago swept its interior bare, leaving little but the heavy walls. Today's fire was literally a repetition of the structure's previous experience, and when the flames were put under control after three hours of hard work by the battalion of firemen, the naked walls stood bare again, just as they had stood one morning eight months ago.

The watchman of the building, whose name could not be ascertained by the police, is believed to have perished in the flames. As soon as the heat of the smoldering debris will allow, the firemen will begin digging for his body.

Fireman Falls Forty Feet.
One fireman, William Kerest, of Engine Company, No. 14, was badly injured. He fell forty feet from the roof of the burning building to the street below.

The factory was located in the heart of a populous tenement district, and the discovery of the blaze was followed by scenes of panic in the surrounding buildings. Police reserves hurried through narrow hallways, arousing tenants in the belief that the entire block was doomed.

The policemen had great difficulty in getting some of the families awake, but once awakened the wild scramble of men, women and children for the stairways threatened to result in serious injury to the weaker ones. Finally most of the frightened people were assembled shivering in the snowy streets, and a careful examination of all showed that no one had been seriously hurt.

It was necessary before the firemen prevented the flames from spreading. The burned building is a complete wreck, the loss being set at \$100,000.

Fearful Gasoline Explosion.
The second fire, one of New York's rare "four-alarm" fires, was in a five-story factory building at West 125th Street and Morningside Avenue. The chief danger in the blaze was that it might communicate to an adjacent dyeing and finishing establishment, a low building, where several hundred gallons of gasoline were stored. Eight lines of hose were kept constantly playing over the little structure until the flames were under control and the danger of explosion averted.

The burned building was swept from basement to roof, despite the efforts of the firemen and apparatus called out by the four alarms. The flames left little

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but the walls and a few brick partitions standing.

The firms occupying the factory were the Empire Laundry Company, Fowler & Hopkins Plumbing Company, Beyer Piano Company and New York Rug Company.

The police said that the loss to the building and the four firms probably would reach \$250,000.

Mrs. Mary Gayle Alken Is Dead.
New Orleans, La., December 20.—Mrs. Mary Gayle Alken, eighty-two, daughter of former Governor John Gayle, of Alabama, and widow of Colonel Hugh K. Alken, of the Alabama division of the Confederate army, died at her home here today. Mrs. Alken is survived by a son, Dr. George Alken, of Durham, N. C., a daughter, Mrs. M. C. Robertson, of Columbia, S. C.

"Carolina Special" to Be Operated.
Columbia, S. C., December 20.—An announcement was made here today by President Finley, of the Southern Railway, that, beginning January 2, 1911, a new through passenger train, to be known as the "Carolina Special," will be operated between Charleston, S. C., and Cincinnati, O., via Columbia, S. C., Asheville, Knoxville, Harrison and Lexington.

OBITUARY

R. Nimmo Roberts.
R. Nimmo Roberts, a former resident of this city, died a few days ago at the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. T. West, in Little Rock, Ark. He was a son of the late T. H. and Ann E. Roberts, of Richmond. He leaves three daughters—Mrs. N. Ardian, of Keokuk, Ia.; Mrs. G. D. Durr, of Tulsa, Okla.; and Mrs. A. T. West, of Arkansas—and two sisters—Misses S. and Jennie Roberts, of this city.

George W. Bogert.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Cartersville, Va., December 20.—George W. Bogert, one of the oldest citizens of this county, died at his home, "Morven," near Cartersville, yesterday afternoon, shortly before six o'clock. Mr. Bogert was born at Stonington, La., January 21, 1825.

When a young man he came South and lived for a time in Louisiana and Tennessee, moving to Virginia and settling in Cumberland county, where he had since resided about forty years ago.

Shortly before coming to this county he was married to Miss Bernie Michaels, who, with one son, George A. Bogert, and three daughters, Mrs. E. T. Whitlock, and Misses Lillie and Bernie Bogert, all living near Cartersville, survive him. He also leaves a sister, Mrs. Robinson, who made her home with him.

Mr. Bogert was a member of the Episcopal Church, and was for a number of years a vestryman. He will be buried from his home to-morrow, in the family cemetery near his home.

Mrs. A. B. Hawkins.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Lexington, N. C., December 20.—Mrs. A. B. Hawkins, wife of Dr. A. B. Hawkins, of this city, died early yesterday morning, aged eighty years. She had been in feeble health for quite a while. She was a Miss Bailey, of Tallahassee, Fla. Her husband survives her. The funeral will be from the Church of the Good Shepherd to-day.

Death of a Child.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Wadesboro, N. C., December 20.—Lennie May, the fourteen-months-old daughter of Mrs. Maude Morrison, of North Wadesboro, died Saturday morning at 7 o'clock, of pneumonia. The remains were buried in the old family graveyard in Lileville township for interment Sunday morning.

M. A. Luck.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Roanoke, Va., December 20.—M. A. Luck died here to-day of pneumonia, aged seventy-three years. He was a native of Bedford county, and had lived here many years. He leaves a family.

William J. Harrison.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Harrisburg, Pa., December 20.—William J. Hill, forty-three years old, died yesterday in Baltimore, Md., from injuries received a week ago in an accident. He was injured while moving a safe two years ago, and had never recovered. He leaves a wife and several children. He was a native of Harrisburg.

Ran T. Carmichael.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Lexington, Va., December 20.—Ran T. Carmichael, aged thirty-eight years, grandson of the late John Randolph, died here to-day of pneumonia, aged thirty-eight years. He was a native of Lexington, Va., and was educated at Washington and Lee, graduating from the law school in 1892. He was active in college athletics. He spent several years practicing law in Charleston, W. Va., and for the past few years has been connected with the Kentucky Product Company, of Emporium, Pa. His wife, who was Miss Net M. Hubbard, of Charleston, W. Va., and his mother, two brothers and one sister survive him.

DEATHS

PETTIT—Died, in Durham, N. C., December 20, 1910, at 6:30 A. M., MRS. MARY E. PETTIT, widow of John N. Pettit, died at her home here to-day. She is survived by three daughters, Mrs. E. C. McSparran, Mrs. R. M. Talferro, Durham, N. C., and Mrs. William E. Mercer.

RHODES—Died, at his home, 2908 East Leigh Street, ELLA T. RHODES, his wife, thirty-four years. She leaves her husband, Henry Rhodes, and three children—Madeline D. Wm. H. and John H. Rhodes—to mourn their loss. Her father was John W. Kollerher and Miss Kate Rahby.

Hour by hour, we saw you fade,
And slowly sink away;
Yet in our hearts we often prayed
That you might longer stay.
She is gone, but not forgotten;
Never shall her memory fade;
And the sunbeams love to linger
Where our dearest Ella's laid.

Funeral notice later.
Petersburg, Va.; Norfolk and New York papers please copy.

HARRIS—Died, at Lewishurst, W. Va., Tuesday, December 20, 1910, MAJOR JOHN W. HARRIS, father of Mrs. Wm. H. Parrish, of Richmond, Va. Funeral from his residence at Lewishurst THURSDAY MORNING, December 22, at 11 o'clock.

MARTIN—Died, at his home, 847 China Street, at 2:05 A. M., December 21, 1910, JOHN W. MARTIN.
Funeral notice later.

PATTERSON—Died, at her home near Free Union, Va., MRS. MARY R. PATTERSON, aged fifty years eight months. She not only leaves her husband, who spared neither time nor money to have his wife well again, but also ten devoted children, eight of whom she the last few days on earth. Her mother, who is ninety-eight years old, also survives her.

The moonlight stars are beaming upon a silent grave.
Where sleeps without dreaming the one we loved and have away.
Heaven retaineth now the treasure, earth the lonely casket keeps.
And the sunbeams love to linger where our dear mother sleeps.
The flowers we lay upon your grave may wither and decay,
But the memory of your life will stay.
Within our hearts shall stay
FATHER AND CHILDREN.

A CABLE AD EVERY DAY

Our Christmas Piano Sale IS ON



Cable Piano Co.

213 East Broad

EVERYTHING MUSICAL

NOT HELD IN CONTEMPT

Proceedings Against Government Officials Dismissed.

New Orleans, La., December 20.—Judge Foster, in the United States Circuit Court, to-day dismissed the contempt proceedings against Francis W. Bird, of New York, special assistant United States attorney, and Frank L. Garbarino, special agent of the department of Justice, who were charged with administering the "third degree" to witnesses summoned before the special grand jury which is investigating alleged frauds in sugar importations at this port.

Following the action of the court in the contempt proceedings, the grand jury resumed its investigation of sugar importations, and subpoenas were issued for half a dozen other witnesses to appear to-morrow, including employees of the sugar refineries, sugar brokers and government employees.

HOUSE ENTERED

S. Potashnick Robbed of Clothing and Cash.

The home of S. Potashnick, 324 North Nineteenth Street, was entered by a thief last night, and a pillow, two shirts and 34 in. money were taken. The thief, who was seen by a negro coming out of the front door a few minutes before Potashnick returned. He notified the police, and Detective Officer Napier made an examination of the premises. The thief entered by climbing over a wall in the back porch, whence he got into the house through the door.

WOLGAST ANSWERS MORAN.

Will Fight Under Certain Conditions Within Ninety Days.

Cambridge, Mich., December 20.—When shown the challenge issued to him last night by Owen Moran, of England, Ad. Wolgast, lightweight champion, said to-day:

"I will fight Moran for the championship and \$5,000 side bet within ninety days after the date of the challenge to meet the fight to be of not less than forty-five rounds or to a finish; the weight to be 135 pounds ringside; my end of the purse to be not less than \$12,500, regardless of the result. These are my conditions, and nothing will change them."

Soon after Moran defeated Battling Nelson, Wolgast said he would meet the British fighter in May, but later changed the date to February, with a \$12,500 guarantee.

Morris Knocks Out Hart.

Sapulpa, Okla., December 20.—Carl Morris, of Sapulpa, Okla., heralded as the "White Man's Hope," knocked out Mary'n Hart, Louisville, Ky., champion of the heavyweight championship of the world, in the third round here to-night.

Wheaton Is Chosen.

Annapolis, Md., December 20.—The Navy Athletic Association at the annual meeting to-night, made Frank Wheaton, late of Yale, field coach of the football and baseball teams of the Naval Academy for next year.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson

To the Public

Owing to rush of business, our stores will be open till 9 P. M.; Saturday, 11 P. M.

S. ULLMAN'S SON.

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506 East Marshall.

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Freeman Advertising Agency
Mutual Building,
Richmond, - Virginia.

Our Way

Every dollar deposited with the Planters National Bank is safeguarded by approved and modern methods.

Every patron of this bank is accorded courteous treatment and the most liberal terms consistent with sound banking.

Capital, Surplus & Profits, \$1,500,000.

Write for booklet, "Banking by Mail."

PLANTERS NATIONAL BANK

There is Only One

"Bromo Quinine"

That is

Laxative Bromo Quinine

USED THE WORLD OVER TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Always remember the full name. Look

for this signature on every box 25c.

E. W. Brown